

REMARKS

Reconsideration and allowance are respectfully requested in light of the above amendments and the following remarks.

Applicants acknowledge with appreciation the indication in the Final Rejection of allowable subject matter in claim 19.

Claim 21 has been amended to overcome the rejection under 35 USC §112, second paragraph. Claims 1-16, 19, 20, 29, and 30 have been cancelled, and claims 21-26 and 28 have been amended for clarity.

All of the subject matter of allowable claim 19 has been integrated into independent claim 17. New claim 31 recites features of method claim 17, though with respect to a system claim. During a telephone interview, the examiner indicated that such system claim would also be allowable.

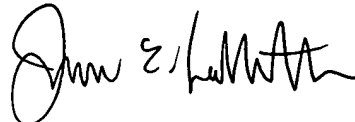
Therefore, allowance of claims 17 and 31 and all claims dependent therefrom is warranted.

In view of the above, it is submitted that this application is in condition for allowance and a notice to that effect is respectfully solicited.

If any issues remain which may best be resolved through a telephone communication, the Examiner is requested to telephone

the undersigned at the local Washington, D.C. telephone number listed below.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "James E. Ledbetter", written in a cursive style.

James E. Ledbetter
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Date: July 7, 2004
JEL/DWW/att

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